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December 10, 2024

## **VIA ECF**

Hon. Joseph F. Leeson, Jr. U.S. D.J. E.D. Pa. United States District Court Eastern District of Pennsylvania Edward N. Cahn U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building 504 West Hamilton Street, Suite 3401 Allentown, Pennsylvania

RE: CHRISTOPHER SMITH VS. THE FINTEX GROUP, LLC AND ANDREW WEINSTEIN CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:24-CV-02134-JFL

## Dear Judge Leeson:

This firm represents Plaintiff Christopher Smith ("Plaintiff") in the above-captioned matter. We write jointly with counsel for Defendants, The Fintex Group, LLC, and Andrew Weinstein ("Defendants"), to respectfully request a 30-day extension of the current discovery deadlines.

In accordance with Your Honor's Individual Policies and Procedures, Defendants submitted a request for a pre-motion conference on December 3, 2024, to address an outstanding dispute regarding documents they contend are protected by the attorney-client privilege. On December 4, Plaintiff responded and submitted its own request for a pre-motion conference seeking permission to file a motion to compel the production of these and other outstanding documents.

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Yesterday, the parties held another meet-and-confer conference to address these issues. While we have made progress, certain issues remain unresolved, and efforts to resolve them without Court intervention are ongoing. Plaintiff maintains that depositions cannot proceed until all responsive documents have been produced, given Plaintiff's view that there remains substantial outstanding materials.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to the Court's September 25, 2024 Order, the current deadlines are as follows: fact discovery must be completed by December 23, 2024 (also the deadline for summary judgment motions), and expert discovery, including expert depositions, must be completed by December 26, 2024. Despite the parties' diligence and compliance with the Court's Order, including Plaintiff's service of discovery requests prior to the Initial Pre-Trial Conference, scheduling depositions has been complicated not only by the ongoing discovery disputes, but also witness travel plans and the holiday season. Additionally, the parties continue to discuss settlement, which we hope may resolve this matter without further litigation.

To allow for the parties to continue resolving discovery disputes and negotiating settlement, the parties respectfully request a 30-day extension of the fact discovery deadline, with corresponding adjustments to subsequent deadlines.

The parties are prepared to address the above on the recently scheduled telephonic conference with Your Honor on December 17, 2024.

Thank you for Your Honor's time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, GRAFFEO & STERN, LLC McNEES, WALLACE & NURICK LLC

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Erik Anderson, Esq.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants do not agree with this position. Nevertheless, in the interest of judicial economy, Defendants do join Plaintiff in seeking a 30-day extension of the fact discovery deadline, with corresponding adjustments to subsequent deadlines.